No. 20-30-3.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND AGRICULTURE.

COMMERCIAL EXHIBITIONS.

Simla, the 12th June 1903.

RESOLUTION.

The following Notification of a Universal and International Exhibition to be held at Liége in the year 1905 is published for general information.

J. O. MILLER,
Secretary to the Government of India.

LIEGE UNIVERSAL AND INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION

ORGANIZED FOR 1905

Under the High Patronage of His Majesty the King of the Belgians, the Honorary Presidency of H. R. H. the Count of Flanders, and the Presidency of H. R. H. Prince Albert of Belgium.

A Universal and International Exhibition will open at Liége in the month of April 1905 and will last for at least six months.

It will include chiefly Artistic, Scientific, Industrial, Commercial and Colonial Sections.

The Artistic Section will consist of a Fine-Art Salcon and, most probably, of an Exhibition of old Art of the Liége District. The inestimable riches found in museums, public monuments and private collections of our antique Principality will enable this last named section to be remarkably supplied, and this display will be completed by a compartment of photographic reproductions of the quaint old monuments of Belgium.

The Colonial Section will comprise an exhibition of the Congo Free State and this will be given an importance to echo the keen interest now inspired by this work of grandeur, due to the initiative of the King.

The programme also includes temporary agricultural and horticultural Shows, Congresses, Conferences, artistic and sportive Fêtes, and Competitions of every description.

Further, the organisers purpose reserving a special spot for re-constituting Old Liége, where monuments and specimens of architecture of the City of the Prince-Bishops will be reproduced.

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The Exhibition will take place in that picturesque frame forming the valley of the Meuse at the confluence of the Ourthe. The main grounds attached will be the Cointe Park displaying its landscapes of verdure over the hills surrounding the City.

These two sites, only 1,500 metres distant from one another, will be connected by various means of communication.

The Exhibition will cover a total area of 45 hectares, an important part of which will be reserved to foreign sections. It will be connected with the Nord-Belge Railway Company's and the Belgian State Railway lines.

The Principal Palace as well as the Halls of the Exhibition will be built of iron and covered with hard materials; the roofed surface amounting to at least one hundred thousand square metres.

The machinery gallery will include numerous workshops in operation under the eyes of the public.

A vast park containing numerous attractions will surround the buildings.

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The necessary measures will be taken for protecting patentable inventions, industrial designs or models, and manufacturing or trade marks appearing at the Exhibition.

The Government will grant on the State railways free transport, to and fro, of Belgian products consigned to the Exhibition and free return in the case of foreign exhibits.

The Exhibition will be treated as an actual bonded warehouse, foreign goods intended to appear at the Exhibition being allowed provisional duty-free importation subject to being afterwards re-exported.

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The Executive Committee are already engaged in setting the general regulations, the classification of products, and conditions of admission to the Exhibition.

The system of division by national compartments, *i. e.*, grouping together the works and produce of each country, combined with a mode of general classification, has already been adopted.

The price for space will include the expenses of general decoration and handling charges: exhibitors will thus be enabled to ascertain beforehand the exact outlay incumbent upon them.

A lottery will be organised under the authority and supervision of the Government; most of the prizes will be purchased from amongst the exhibits.

An International Jury appointed with the approbation of the Government will undertake the allotment of awards.

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The Cities of Brussels and Antwerp organised in the past Universal Exhibitions which proved highly successful: our large Walloon City, having regard to its topographical situation, the importance of its population, the Art treasures it has been accumulating for centuries, the numerous and really important industries of which it is the centre, the extent of commercial relations which it has succeeded in establishing all over the world, may look forward to an equal success.

The industrial basin around Liége is in the position to give the metallurgy, mining, machinery, arm-manufacturing, electricity and automobilism groups such a character and importance as have perhaps never been realised at former exhibitions.

Important corporations of Liége are now under formation, extensive participations of the whole of Belgium are so far secured, and adhesions have been received from the large neighbouring countries having active commercial relations with Belgium.

In this regard it might be noted that the general trade of Belgium in 1901 amounted to 7,000,000,000 francs of which 1,421,204,362 francs with Germany, 1,224,992,763 francs with France, 1,068,160,217 francs with Great Britain, 635,705,495 francs with the Netherlands, 589,344,991 francs with the United States of America.

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With the view of increasing the attraction to foreigners which a journey to Liége will afford, the Executive Committee will endeavour to help such persons as take an interest in studying industrial questions, to gain admission to those large metallurgical and coal-mining establishments which have contributed to render the Liége Basin one of the most important industrial centres of the world.

This novelty in connection with an Exhibition will certainly form a highly appreciated attraction, to say nothing of the many other reasons likely to draw visitors to Liége in 1905.

Grand fêtes are contemplated to be held in the principal cities of the country for the purpose of celebrating the 75th anniversary of National Independence with which the Exhibition is to coincide.

On the other hand, our City is a capital centre for excursions to the picturesque localities along the Meuse and its affluents, such as Spa, Chaudfontaine, Tilff, Esneux, Argenteau, Namur, Dinant and the Ardennes.

Only a few hours' rail separates it from the other large cities of the country. In this connection we would note that the State Railway's circular travelling tickets offer great facilities for successively visiting *Brussels*, the capital, remarkable by its busy life and its monuments; *Antwerp*, the commercial metropolis of the country, so justly celebrated on account of the works of the great Flemish painters it contains; *Ghent*, well known by its textile industries and horticultural establishments; *Bruges*, the ancient Venice of the North, whose artistic treasures are incomparable; and the seaside resorts, of which *Ostend* is the queen.

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Although undertaken by solely private initiative, the Liége Exhibition has already secured the effective co-operation of the Belgian Government as well as the support of the City and Province of Liége.

It is placed under the High Patronage of His Majesty the King of the Belgians and the Honorary Presidency of H. R. H. the Count of Flanders.

H. R. H. Prince Albert of Belgium has accepted the effective Presidency over the Government Commission of the Exhibition.

The organizing Committee already includes an official Delegate of the Government pending the early institution of the Commissionership-General of the Government.

This Exhibition is not organised with a view of profit, the sole object of its promoters being to honour the completion of large public works, the carrying out of which is calculated to ensure to the City of Liége the development commanded by its ever-increasing importance, and to worthily commemorate the 75th anniversary of National Independence.

Their higher idea is also to make their country appreciated abroad and to contribute to win it the sympathy and esteem of other nations, which will always be the most valuable safeguard of Belgium's independence and free institutions.

The Executive Committee therefore warmly appeal to all, convinced, as they are, that the character and object of the Liége Exhibition will secure numerous and important adhesions.

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Copy forwarded to the Foreign Department for information and communication to Native States.

By Order,
R. E. V. ARBUTHNOT,
Under-Secretary to the Govt. of India.